EDventures funded participation in COMPASS Workshop in Monterey

Lydia Baker was provided funding by EDventures to participate in the “Science Communication Workshop for C-MORE Graduate Students and Post-Docs”, put on by the Communication Partnership for Science and the Sea (COMPASS) at Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) on May 23, 2011. The COMPASS workshop was developed in 1999 as a collaboration between scientists and communication professionals who were dissatisfied with the lack of scientific understanding by the public and in policy making. They believed that scientists could take on the critical, yet unrealized role, of fostering greater public understanding of oceanographic issues. With this thought in mind, COMPASS created a basic outline for their science and communication workshop, which could be tailored for the needs of various scientific organizations.

Because of involvement in the Bigelow Lab Single Cell Genomics workshop in 2010, Ms. Baker was unable to participate in the similar workshop hosted by C-MORE in Hawaii and felt that it would be a valuable experience to participate in the COMPASS workshop, and that it would greatly enhance her ability to communicate science both with her peers and with the general public. This workshop, as a part of C-MORE’s professional development training program (PDTP), provided instruction in how to effectively communicate research whether to the public, whether in person, through television interviews, or by blogging and podcasting.